

## DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE OF THE ELDERLY IN WASHINGTON, DC 2003

A typical senior would be a black female, 73 years old living at home in a single family home, on a retirement income (mostly social security and/or pension), in a family setting (husband or living with other relatives), utilizing or may need programs and services in order to maintain her independence as she ages. Her major asset would be her home. As her life expectancy expand the chances increases that she may spend some of her remaining years alone and have a chronic disability that may limit her activity of daily living.

### POPULATION 60 YEARS AND OLDER

**91,878 (2000 Census)**

**92,313 (2002 Estimate)**

- 16% of total population

- One out of every six residents.



### ELDERLY 60 YEARS+ BY AGE DISTRIBUTION (2000)

- 24% 60-64 years
- 39% 65-74 years
- 27% 75-84 years
- 10% 85 years +
- The number of persons over 75 years+ is growing.

### ELDERLY 60 YEARS + BY RACE AND SPANISH ORIGIN (2000)

- 68% Black
- 28% White
- 1 % Asian
- 1% Other Races
- 3% Spanish Origin



-Spanish Origin and Asian

Elderly are the fastest growing groups.

### ELDERLY 60 YEARS + BY SEX (2000)

- 60% Female
- 40 % Male

-As a person over 60 ages, the proportion of women increases, so that 2/3 of every senior over 75 years are women. Black females continue to be the largest group of the elderly population, 42%.



### LIVING ARRANGEMENTS OF ELDERLY 60 YEARS+ (2000)\*

- 50% Lived with spouse or other relatives
- 45% Lived alone
- 5% Lived with non relatives

- The fastest growing number of elderly living alone are those over 75.

### HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS OF ELDERLY 60 YEARS+ (2000) \*

- 60% owned
- 40% rented



- -Seniors have the highest percentage of homeownership than other age groups. Only 5% lived in nursing homes

\* Includes Non-institutionalized persons only

## HOUSEHOLDS COMPOSITION OF ELDERLY 60 YEARS+ (2000)\*

- 28% of all households
- 29% of one-person households
- 13% of non-family households



-Seniors make up a growing number of one person and non-family households

## FIVE LEADING CAUSES OF DEATH FOR PERSONS 60 YEARS+ (1999)

- |                             |     |
|-----------------------------|-----|
| • 1. Heart Disease          | 30% |
| • 2. Cancer                 | 25% |
| • 3. Cerebrovascular        | 5%  |
| • 4. Essential Hypertension | 5%  |
| • 5. Diabetes               | 5%  |



## MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME BY AGE GROUP IN 1999\*

- |            |          |
|------------|----------|
| • 55-64    | \$48,077 |
| • 65-74    | \$32,356 |
| • 75+      | \$28,173 |
| • All Ages | \$40,127 |



## POVERTY STATUS OF ELDERLY 65 YEARS+ IN 1999\*

16% Elderly persons 65 yrs+ below poverty level (\$ 8,240 Living alone) (\$11,060 For couples)



## TRANSPORTATION ACCESS FOR 65 YRS+ (2000)\*

- 43% had no personal vehicle
- 57% had one or more personal vehicle



## DISABILITY (2000)\*

- 42% of persons 65 years+ had one or more disabilities
- Physical (walking, getting out of bed, dressing, bathing, eating, etc)



## EDUCATION LEVELS FOR ELDERLY 65 YRS+ (2000)

- 62% high school graduate
- 24% had at least a bachelors degree



## WARD DISTRIBUTION (2000)

- |          |     |
|----------|-----|
| • Ward 1 | 9%  |
| • Ward 2 | 12% |
| • Ward 3 | 17% |
| • Ward 4 | 17% |
| • Ward 5 | 15% |
| • Ward 6 | 10% |
| • Ward 7 | 13% |
| • Ward 8 | 10% |

-The elderly population increased faster in Wards 4 and 5.

## BY SECTION (2000)

- |      |     |
|------|-----|
| • NW | 58% |
| • NE | 22% |
| • SE | 14% |
| • SW | 6%  |

This fact sheet was compiled by the DC Office on Aging using the most recent data available including the 2000 Census. December, 2003